

## REPORT

*Of the Committee on Military Affairs on the memorial of the Corporation of St. Anne's Church, Detroit; accompanied with a bill for their relief.*

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JANUARY 16, 1824.

Read, and, with the bill, committed to a Committee of the whole House to-morrow.

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The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of the Rector and Trustees of the Corporation of the Catholic Apostolic and Roman Church of St. Anne, of Detroit,

### REPORT:

That, at the last session of Congress, this petition was referred to the Military Committee, and an elaborate report was made by that committee to this House, on the 7th of February, 1823, with several accompanying documents. To that report, and the auxiliary papers, which are to be found in the printed reports of this House, Second Session Seventeenth Congress, page 87, vol. 2d, your committee beg leave to refer, as the reprinting of the same would be both an unnecessary expense and an unnecessary multiplication of the public documents. It will be sufficient to offer the following brief summary of the facts in this case:

It appears that an act was passed by Congress, on the 21st of April, 1806, authorizing the Governor and Judges of the territory of Michigan to lay out a town, including the whole of the old town of Detroit, and ten thousand acres adjacent, except such parts as the President of the United States should direct to be reserved for military purposes, with full power to adjust all claims; and, after satisfying the claims provided for by said act, to sell the residue of the land, and, with the proceeds, to erect a court-house and jail.

It appears that the Commissioners, by virtue of these powers, received from the Corporation of the Church of St. Anne, a relinquishment of all the lots of ground owned by them in the old town of Detroit; among these, were those adjacent to Jefferson avenue, which it

was very important should be surrendered, to enable the Commissioners to lay out that spacious way through the town.

In consideration of this relinquishment, the Commissioners granted and confirmed unto the petitioners a certain lot, in the town of Detroit, one hundred and thirty-two feet in width, on the north side of said avenue, bounded, eastwardly, by Joseph Campeau's lot, and extending, northwardly, at right angles, with Jefferson avenue, two hundred feet. About fifty feet of the north end of this lot falls within the military reserve, which had been previously located, under the direction of Colonel Burbeck, of the United States' army; but, at the time of the above confirmation, the original survey is said to have been lost.

The petitioners, therefore, pray that the said fraction of ground, which falls within the military reserve, after the opening of Larned street, (a street originally projected in laying out the town, but never run through,) should be confirmed to them; and that the Governor and Judges of Michigan do cause Larned street to be continued, westwardly, parallel to Jefferson avenue, until it intersects the street which runs northwardly from said avenue.

Your committee, by reference to the diagram furnished by Major General Macomb, chief engineer, with a full consideration of his letter accompanying it, are unanimously of opinion, that the opening the said street will be an essential benefit to the town of Detroit, without in any degree injuring the military reservation, which seems to be abundantly large for all the purposes for which it was intended; and that it is no more than an act of justice to the Corporation of St. Anne's, to confirm to them the fraction of ground which was originally conveyed to them by virtue of the powers of the Commissioners, under the act of the 21st April, 1806.

They, therefore, report a transcript of the bill reported by the Committee on Military Affairs, at the last Session, which, they presume, was not acted upon for want of time.